GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:44
ANSWERED ON:17.07.2017
Flooding of Imports
Senthilnathan Shri PR.

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the effective steps taken by the Government to Control the flooding of Indian Markets with goods including toys and children play items containing hazardous chemicals/materials from China, Taiwan and Korea;
(b) the list of items for which imports from various other countries particularly China, Taiwan and Korea have been imposed prohibition in the last three years;
(c) whether the Government has taken any effective steps to protect the domestic manufacturers from the flooding of imports from these countries; and
(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a)& (b): India has an elaborate and robust legal framework and institutional set up to protect its environment, life and health of its people, plants and animals. Adequate provisions exist under the Foreign Trade Policy to protect the Indian consumers and producers, as imported goods are subject to domestic laws, rules, orders, regulations, technical specifications, environmental and safety norms. The BIS standards applicable to domestic goods are also applicable to imported goods. The Government of India has taken various measures for checking sub-standard imports, which inter-alia includes the following:

1. Government has imposed prohibition on import of milk and milk products (including chocolate and chocolate products and candies/confectionary/ food preparations with milk or milk solids as an ingredient) from China since 01/12/2008, which has been extended from time to time and these products are currently prohibited till 23.6.2018. This is the only China specific measure.

2. Import of Toys under EXIM Codes 9503 0010, 9503 0020, 9503 0030 and 9503 0090 are free for import subject to the following two types of certificates:
(i) A certificate that the toys being imported conform to the standards prescribed in
(a) ASTM F963 or
(b) ISO 8124 (Parts I-III) or
(c) IS 9873 [Parts I-III] or
(d) EN 71; and

(ii) A Certificate of Conformance from the manufacturer that representative sample of the toys being imported have been tested by an independent laboratory which is accredited under International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) and found to meet the specifications indicated in (i) above. The certificate would also link the toys in the consignment to the period of manufacture indicated in the Certificate of Conformity.

(c)& (d): The issue of injury to domestic industry can be addressed through trade defence measures like anti − dumping duty, counter − veiling duty and safeguard duty. Indian industry can seek remedies under the above provisions. Directorate General of Anti-dumping & Allied Duties(DGAD) under the Department of Commerce conducts anti − dumping and countervailing investigations on the basis of duly substantiated petitions filed by the domestic industry affected by such imports. Similarly, Directorate General of Safeguards under the Ministry of Finance conducts safeguard investigation based on which the Central Government imposes Safeguard Duty on any article imported into India in such increased quantities and under such conditions so as to cause or threaten to cause serious injury to the Indian domestic industry.
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